



**RESILIENT WEAVERS FOR
SELF-DETERMINATION
INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS
WITHIN THE GLOBAL SOUTH MOVEMENT**

**FIMI / AYNİ FUND
LEADING FROM THE SOUTH II PROGRAMME
ANNUAL REPORT 2025**

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1. INTRODUCTION

Over the past year, FIMI's Ayni Fund continued to strengthen its role as a key financing mechanism for Indigenous Women's organizations and networks in a global context marked by multiple and overlapping crises. In this scenario, the Ayni Fund contributed to sustaining and strengthening organizational processes led by Indigenous Women by prioritizing flexible funding, close accompaniment, and culturally relevant approaches. This support enabled participating organizations to adapt, respond to emerging challenges, and sustain their political, collective, and community-based actions.

The year 2025 marked FIMI's 25th anniversary, a milestone that highlighted the trajectory, legitimacy, and accumulated political experience of the global Indigenous Women's movement. It also reaffirmed the strategic role of the Ayni Fund as a financing and accompaniment mechanism built by and for Indigenous Women, grounded in their territories, priorities, and collective visions.

During this period, we deepened and broadened our territorial reach, connecting with grassroots organizations that have limited access to direct funding. We also strengthened technical and political accompaniment, as well as the quality of implementation, monitoring, and accountability processes among supported organizations. The integration of collective care, healing, and spirituality into supported projects was further consolidated as a cross-cutting practice, contributing to the organizational and community resilience of Indigenous Women's organizations.

Likewise, progress in the implementation of CEDAW General Recommendation No. 39 remained a strategic priority, strengthening advocacy, coordination, and political participation at the local, national, and regional levels. FIMI maintains its strategic commitment within the Leading from the South consortium, strengthening collective action across the Global South, fostering resilience, and contributing to the transformation of realities through Indigenous Women's leadership.

This annual report presents the progress achieved, the lessons learned, and the challenges that remain on the path toward collective change.



2. CONTEXT ANALYSIS

In 2025, the global context was characterized by the intensification of multiple overlapping crises, including climate change, economic inequality, armed conflict, and democratic backsliding. In addition, continued backlash against women's human rights and gender equality, the closure of civic space and the undermining of multilateralism contributed to further weakening the promotion, protection and respect for human rights worldwide. For Indigenous Women, these dynamics intersected with long-standing structural discrimination rooted in colonial legacies and systemic barriers, resulting in persistent inequalities across social, economic, environmental and political dimensions.

Across regions, Indigenous Women and Indigenous Peoples more broadly continued to be disproportionately represented among the poorest populations, with limited access to quality education, healthcare and employment. These disparities tend to be particularly acute in rural and remote areas, where infrastructure gaps and geographic isolation further constrain access to services. They also faced different types of inequalities in urban areas, such as housing insecurity and homelessness, disconnection from land, culture, and community, etc.

Violence against Indigenous Women remained one of the most critical and pervasive challenges globally, including domestic abuse, sexual violence, sexual exploitation and trafficking, female genital mutilation and femicide. This violence is often exacerbated by structural factors, including poverty, displacement, conflicts and weak rule of law. Barriers to justice for Indigenous Women continued to include language differences, geographic isolation, lack of culturally appropriate services, and systemic discrimination within legal institutions, contributing to underreporting of cases and widespread impunity.¹

Indigenous Women land and territory defenders continued to face particularly acute risks from States and non-state actors, including killings, threats, and criminalization, due to increasing pressure on indigenous territories from extractive industries.² Additionally, indigenous communities and women in particular continued to be widely affected by environmental degradation, biodiversity loss, and extreme weather events, while governments failed to uphold Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). At the same time, Indigenous Women are increasingly globally recognized as leaders in climate action, contributing critical knowledge on sustainable resource management and advocating for rights-based approaches to environmental governance. The 2025 UN Permanent Forum emphasized Indigenous Women's critical role in climate resilience, calling for increased participation in decision-making on this issue and more broadly.

As for political participation and representation, despite growing international recognition, Indigenous Women remain underrepresented in political and decision-making processes at local, national, and global levels. Structural barriers—including discrimination, limited access to education and resources, and restrictive national and international political environments—continued to constrain their participation. Indigenous Women's organizations continued to advocate for stronger inclusion, dedicated funding, and protection of civic space to enable their effective engagement and access to decision-making. Within their communities, Indigenous Women continued to play critical roles in governance and social movements, often leading efforts to advance women's individual and collective rights at all levels.³

In summary, the global context for Indigenous Women in 2025 was characterized by a complex interplay of progress and persistent inequality. While their rights and contributions are increasingly recognized in international frameworks, structural barriers continue to shape their lived realities. Despite these significant challenges, Indigenous Women demonstrated resilience and leadership across multiple domains, becoming central players in movements for environmental justice, cultural revitalization, and social transformation. Indigenous Women-led organizations are increasingly recognized as key actors in advancing sustainable development and individual and collective human rights. The said resilience and agency help to underscore the relevance of Leading from the South for advancing Indigenous Women's human rights and the continued need for this type of initiatives.

¹ <https://fimi-iiwf.org/en/biblioteca-propias/the-global-study-on-the-situation-of-indigenous-women-and-girls/> and <https://docs.un.org/en/E/2025/43>

² https://fibgar.es/en/the-growing-threat-to-indigenous-human-rights-defenders-a-call-to-protect-those-who-protect/#:~:text=According%20to%20a%202024%2D2025%20report%20from%20Front.gender%2C%20their%20indigenous%20identity%20and%20their%20activism** and <https://frontlinedefenders.shorthandstories.com/frontline-defenders-global-analysis-2025/index.html>

³ FIMI LFS Annual operational Plan 2025



3. PROGRAMME PROGRESS

3.1 Output level progress

OUTPUT 1: AGREEMENTS AND MEETINGS BETWEEN FIMI AND STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Throughout 2025, FIMI strengthened collaboration with feminist, philanthropic and development cooperation actors. These included women’s and feminist funds, indigenous-led funds, foundations, intergovernmental organizations, and donor governments. At the same time, FIMI expanded its engagement with new partners to enhance resource mobilization and impact for Indigenous Women’s rights.

At an institutional level, FIMI partnered with Equality Fund, Fondation Chanel, Women Win, Oak Foundation and Open Society Foundation, while continuing its engagement with the Prospera network of Women’s Funds. The AYNi Fund placed particular emphasis on strengthening alliances with Indigenous-led funds through sustained dialogue, joint learning and exchange process as well as collaboration on funding strategies related to land, territory, conservation, and climate change (*see Output 7 for details*).

At the level of the LFS II programme, FIMI continued to engage with consortium members -- the African Women’s Development Fund, Women’s Fund Asia, and Fondo de Mujeres del Sur -- to strengthen coordination during the last year of the LFS II initiative, and explore continued collaboration in global advocacy on women’s human rights and resource mobilization for women’s rights organizations in the Global South. This included the implementation of additional core support from Fondation Chanel and coordination for the submission of a scaled-down, two-year proposal to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, as part of a phased exit strategy in response to shifting development cooperation priorities.

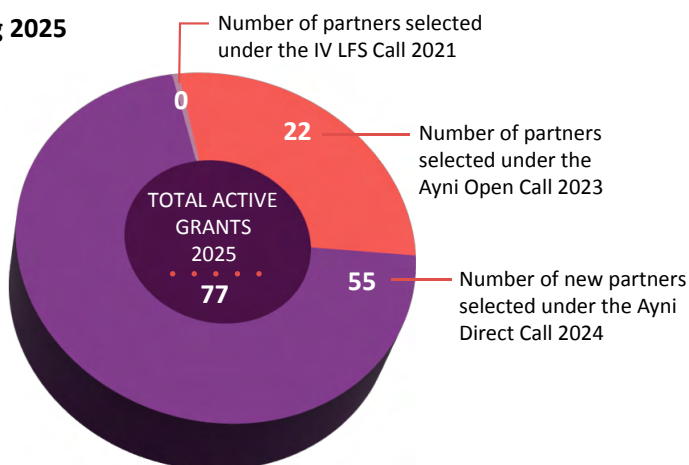
Lastly, the AYNi Fund contributed to strengthening donors’ understanding of Indigenous Women’s rights and priorities through participation in consultations, donor dialogues, and collaborative advocacy spaces, promoting key frameworks such as CEDAW General Recommendation No. 39. AYNi engaged with a range of donors and funders -including MFA, Equality Fund, Fondation Chanel, Tenure Facility, and FIDA, among others- to improve their knowledge of and alignment with Indigenous Women’s priorities. In addition, participation in platforms like IFIP, Spring Strategies, the Forest Tenure Funders Group, and the First Global Congress of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities from the Forest Basins, supported alignment of funding strategies with Indigenous Women’s priorities on climate finance, land tenure, and Indigenous-led climate solutions.

OUTPUT 2: CO-INVESTMENT (GRANTS) AIMED AT INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS FOR DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING PROJECTS LED BY INDIGENOUS WOMEN

During 2025 the Ayni Fund continued to mobilize and exchange resources for capacity-building and institutional strengthening of Indigenous Women’s Organizations, and for supporting their political, economic, social and environmental development projects worldwide. To that effect, throughout the last year of the second edition of the Leading from the South programme, it focused on accompanying grantee partners from the 2024 direct call (55 projects funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and those from previous years whose projects were still active (22). This approach enabled FIMI to ensure completion of the projects it supported and work with grantee partners for a smooth exit strategy. In all, it accompanied 77 active projects throughout the year that were part of the LFS II programme. This close accompaniment was made possible by a strengthened team, especially at the regional level, working in close coordination with global level staff, and by impactful field missions.

In addition, the Ayni Fund continued with its strategy of regranting to ensure its resources reached a wider spectrum of grassroots organizations and groupings. Throughout 2025 it continued to support the five large Indigenous Women Organizations that implemented re-granting mechanisms in 2024 – reaching 73 local grassroots organizations (40%) of them with MFA funding – and included one additional IWO that reached 7 local grassroots organizations.

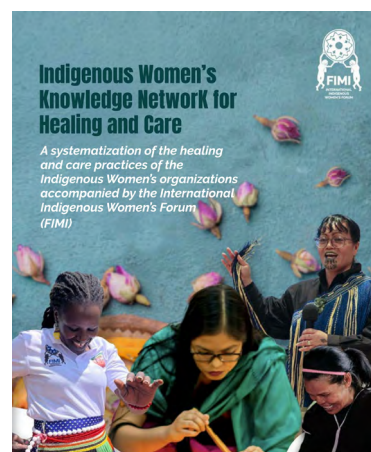
Table A: Number of active grants during 2025



OUTPUT 3: COLLECTIVE CARE AS A CROSS-CUTTING THEME IN GRANTMAKING

Collective care plays a central role in the life of Indigenous Women and their organizations. Out of respect to indigenous peoples’ identities and traditions, and in recognition of its value in fostering well-being and resilience, FIMI has made Collective Care a central part of its work. It has indeed become a cross-cutting strategy within the Ayni Fund that permeates its grant-making and accompaniment to ensure the individual and collective well-being both of indigenous women’s networks, groups, alliances and organizations it supports, as well as of the FIMI/Ayni Fund team.

In 2025, with a view to strengthening FIMI’s Collective Care practices, the organization developed a *Indigenous Women Network for Healing and Care* that systematizes Collective Care practices and processes and offers guidance to further their institutionalization. The guide was developed using a participatory approach that included a wide consultative process anchored in Linking and Learning events with indigenous women leaders from Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Pacific (see *Output 4*), and a series of interviews with key informants. Said approach allowed the Ayni Fund to gain a better understanding of care, spiritual and healing practices across four different regions – many of them based on ancestral indigenous knowledge –, and ensure the guide reflected this richness and offered guidance grounded in the lived realities of Indigenous Women.



OUTPUT 4: REGIONAL EVENTS OF FIMI PARTNERS

During 2025 FIMI and the Ayni Fund continued to foster the exchange of knowledge and experiences among Indigenous Women's organizations through Linking and Learning. What began as a component of Leading from the South is today a key strategy used in FIMI's four strategic programs – Capacity Development, Intercultural Research, Political Participation and Advocacy, and the Ayni Fund – given its effectiveness in supporting learning, fostering synergies within and across regions and contributing to movement building.

Following are some of these Linking and Learning meetings and cross-regional convenings held throughout the year

Linking and Learning on Collective Care, Spirituality, and Healing, held April 21-24, 2025 in Siem Reap and Kampong Thom Provinces, Cambodia

FIMI convened a Linking and Learning three-day event, in collaboration with the Cambodia Organization of Indigenous People (CIPO) and the Cambodia Indigenous Women Association (CIWA). It brought together diverse Indigenous women leaders from across Asia and the Pacific to strengthen, refine, and institutionalize practices of spirituality, collective care, and healing within their communities and organizations. Through a participatory methodology that combined community field visits, cultural rituals, knowledge exchange, and structured group discussions, participants shared lived experiences on collective care and contributed detailed inputs to a draft guide on collective care developed by FIMI titled *Basic Guide and Methodological Implementation Path for the Care of Spirituality, Collective Care, Well-being, and Healing of Indigenous Women*.

The process highlighted the centrality of Indigenous knowledge, the need for holistic and culturally grounded approaches to healing, and the importance of embedding collective care into organizational systems and grant-making. Key outcomes included strengthened networks, enhanced understanding of FIMI's approach, and concrete recommendations for making the guide more practical, inclusive, and adaptable—such as integrating local languages, ensuring accessibility, addressing systemic barriers, and establishing safe spaces and support structures. The event also identified critical steps and challenges for institutionalization, including resource constraints, differing understandings of spirituality, and the need for leadership buy-in, while reaffirming a shared commitment to advancing Indigenous women's well-being, resilience, and self-determined development through sustained collective care practices.

A total of **28 participants** took part in the L&L event, including young women and girls, persons with disabilities, and LGBTQ+ from Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, and Thailand. As for the field visit to Kampong Thom Province, there were 89 participants (including 10 men) from various ethnic groups such as Brahmin, Liangmai Naga, Tripura, Karen, Semai, Hmong, Phoutai, Kankanaey, Krio, Tompoun, Newar, Naga, Khmer, Bunong, Jarai, Por, Kui, and Lun.

Linking and Learning exchange among partner organizations, focused on Healing and Collective Care, held June 9-12, 2025 in Bogotá, Colombia

This **First International Meeting of Women on Healing and Collective Care** brought together FIMI staff, LFS grantee partners from the region and IWOs from Colombia, to share an experience of collective care through harmonization, protection and empowerment of participants implemented by LFS grantee partner and host, Indigenous Council Muisca de Bosa in Bogotá. The encounter facilitated experiential learning through a healing activity, peer exchange, shared reflection, and the documentation of collective practices related to care, healing, and organizational sustainability in different territorial contexts. Participants provided feedback on the systematization of experiences and guide on Collective Care and Spiritual Healing developed by FIMI, and reflected on the impact of collective care and how these practices can be adapted and replicated to different contexts.

Dialogue and Learning Exchange on Strengthening Indigenous and Local Community-led Funds, held February 10-14 in Alter do Chão, Brazil

The meeting was organized and facilitated by Spring Strategies and Coletivo EntreLinhas, with support from the Ford Foundation, to strengthen a global community of Indigenous Peoples and Local Community-led funds, and increase their impact through collective learning and strategizing. The Climate and Land Use Alliance (CLUA), Tenure Facility,



Global Fund for Community Foundations (GFCF) and PRISMA also supported the dialogue. The gathering included discussions on current funding trends, shifts in the funding landscape, and opportunities for influencing the funding ecosystem, and how to strengthen narratives for resource mobilization. Participants also looked at lessons from the journeys of community and feminist funds, at the different types of actors in the funding landscape and the role of funds within the funding and movement ecosystems. Visits were organized to Vila Aña and Vila Coroca, two communities that continue to resist extractive industries while facing land insecurity, environmental threats and political challenges. In addition to the Ayni Fund, participants included the following organizations: CHIRAPAQ, Community Land Rights and Conservation Finance Initiative (CLARIFI), Fondo Territorial Mesoamericano (FTM), The Indigenous Peoples of Asia Solidarity Fund (IPAS), The Network of Community Funds of the Amazon including Fundo Podáali, the Nusantara Fund, the Network of Indigenous and Local Populations for the Sustainable Management of Forest Ecosystems in Central Africa, and the Global Alliance for Territorial Communities (GATC) from the Shandia Platform, including representation from the Jaguatá Fund of the Articulation of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil (APIB). The meeting allowed the Ayni Fund to learn and exchange with other funders committed to advancing indigenous people's rights and the environmental agenda, and network for generating advocacy processes that give visibility to the critical role of women in addressing climate change and sustaining biodiversity. building new ties and strengthening existing ones. In addition to that first dialogue, organizers sustained engagement throughout the year to support fund-strengthening processes, enabling Ayni to continue to learn and benefit from this new space.

OUTPUT 5: JOINT PROMOTION ACTIONS AND COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

A key strategy of the Ayni Fund has been the implementation of regranting as a mechanism to expand its territorial reach. This regranting began as a pilot initiative in 2022 with two organizations and was later successfully expanded to include five organizations. In 2025, a sixth organization was incorporated to the portfolio: Inter Mountain Peoples' Education and Culture in Thailand Association (IMPECT), making it possible to reach additional grassroots organizations from the Asia region and contribute to their institutional strengthening. In all, there were 80 active grants awarded to local and grassroots organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and Asia through re-granting with funding provided by two main donors, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands and Fondation Chanel.

Leading from the South II made possible re-granting by two of the six organizations that participated in this pilot initiative: Chirapaq (Peru) and Indigenous Information Network (Kenya). During 2025, the Ayni Fund team accompanied the final phase and closure of these two regranting mechanisms and the 29 small grants that remained active.

Regranting exercises have proven to be an efficient and safe channel to reach small organizations working on the frontlines that do not have access to financial and technical resources, effectively expanding the reach and impact of the Ayni Fund. This model fosters a more equitable distribution of financial resources, and enables faster, more contextualized project implementation by reducing the bureaucracy of larger organizations and allowing for a rapid response to emerging needs. In this sense, the role of regranting organizations is critical given their experience with

managing funds, their long-standing relationship with FIMI, their links to Indigenous Women’s networks and their presence in territories with primarily indigenous populations. For grassroots Indigenous Women’s Organizations, access to these grants has strengthened their organizational capacities and opportunities to expand their work and impact. And for Indigenous Women organizations in charge of regranting, the experience has also contributed to their organizational strengthening.

As a byproduct of this pilot initiative, the Ayni Fund developed a *Systematization Guide for the Regranting Mechanism and Learning Pathways for Indigenous Women* to assist organizations in charge of regranting with their monitoring and documentation practices (see *Output 6*). In addition, building on lessons learned, the Ayni Fund plans in future editions to include in its monitoring plans not only the Indigenous Women Organizations responsible for regranting, but also the grassroots grantees that benefit from these mechanisms for strengthened accountability and learning.

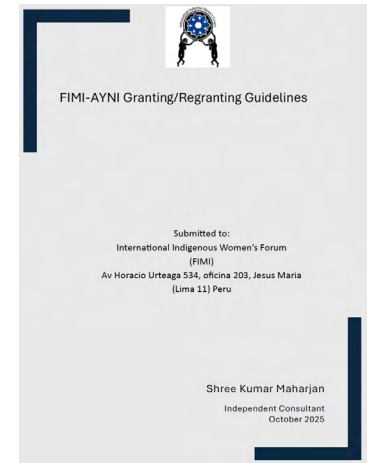


Table B: Number of active grants in 2025 awarded through re-granting per organization

REGION	ORGANIZATION	DONOR	# GRANTS
Africa	Indigenous Information Network (IIN) (Kenya)	MFA	23
Africa	Alliance Nationale d’Appui et de Promotion des Aires et Territoires du Patrimoine Autochtone et Communautaire (ANAPAC) (Democratic Republic of Congo)	other	5
LAC	Chirapaq (Peru)	MFA	6
LAC	Corporación Cultural y Ecológica Mujer, Tejer y Saberes (MUTESA) (Colombia)	other	10
Asia	Perempuan Aman (Indonesia)	other	29
Asia	Inter Mountain Peoples’ Education and Culture in Thailand Association (IMPECT)	other	7
	Total		80

OUTPUT 6: DOCUMENTING ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES, LEARNINGS AND EXPERIENCES

Critical to supporting feminist activism by Indigenous Women organizations and networks is showcasing their achievements, challenges and lessons learned in the process. Powerful narratives of success, resilience, and measurable impact, not only give visibility to their work, but also amplify the voices of Indigenous Women and underscore the value of Indigenous Women-led solutions.

To that effect, during 2025 the Ayni Fund continued to strengthen its documentation, systematization and dissemination efforts, ensuring results, learning, and evidence from Indigenous Women-led initiatives were properly documented and shared with various audiences.

Particular attention was paid to the submission of tailored reports in a timely manner to The Netherlands MFA for Leading from the South II, and to the Equality Fund, IFAD, Women Win, and Fondation Chanel for other programmes, ensuring accountability and transparency across funding mechanisms. The Fund also commissioned and provided support to the external team leading the End Term Evaluation of LFS II, which is expected to be completed by May 2026.

In addition, the AYNi Fund developed key knowledge products, including a *Systematization Guide for the Regranting Mechanism and Learning Pathways for Indigenous Women* that outlines the principles, pathways, grant-making system and MEL considerations for regranting. This guide, which builds on the findings from a consultation with IWROs charged with regranting within the framework of LFS II, is expected to assist them with their monitoring and documentation practices while strengthening the Fund’s own organizational development. It also finalized the Plan of Action for CEDAW General Recommendation No. 39, which provides a roadmap for Indigenous Women Organizations and networks to advocate for the effective implementation of this legal binding interpretation by the CEDAW Committee.

Lastly, building on the significant strides made in its communication strategies, the Ayni Fund developed a series of stories of change in audiovisual format that highlight Indigenous Women's leadership and document the experiences of Indigenous Women Organizations supported by LFS II across Asia and the Pacific, Africa and Latin America. These stories, disseminated through FIMI's social media, include powerful testimonies from Indigenous Women leaders from Cabildo Muisca de Bosa in Colombia; Red Nacional de Mujeres Indígenas de El Salvador (RENAMIES) in El Salvador; various grassroots organizations in Kenya, such as the Napakrin and the Intotoli women's groups; Red Nacional de Abogadas indígenas (RAI) in Mexico; National Indigenous Disabled Women Association Nepal (NIDWAN) in Nepal; and the Santo Sunset Women Environment Network in Vanuatu. Additionally, photographs, videos and interviews to develop into stories of change were also conducted in twelve other countries - Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Guatemala, in Latin America; Benin, Rwanda and Tanzania, in Africa; and Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand, in Asia. In all, 14 Indigenous Women's Organizations from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds were visited. The significant investment of staff, time and financial resources deployed by the Ayni Fund in documenting these indigenous-led initiatives and the voices of their protagonists, as well as the range of indigenous peoples' and geographies covered, underscore the progress made in documenting and communicating the work it supports and the overall institutional strengthening of FIMI.



Throughout 2025 results and learning from implementing LFS II were disseminated through participation in strategic spaces, such as CSW69, UNPFII, the EDGE Funders Alliance Conference, COP30, and FIMI’s 25th Anniversary gathering. FIMI’s presence in these global spaces was also highly profiled in its social media. This has allowed the AYN Fund to continue to give visibility to Indigenous Women’s leadership and collective achievements, while highlighting the importance of resourcing Indigenous Women’s organizing and movement building for the full enjoyment of their human rights.

Table C: Stories of change documented in 2025

PICTURE	COUNTRY	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES	ORGANIZATION	STORY	VIDEO
	Colombia	Muisca	Cabildo Muisca de Bosa	 READ THE STORY	 WATCH VIDEO
	El Salvador	Nahua-Pipil, Lenca y Kakawira	Red Nacional de Mujeres Indígenas de El Salvador	 READ THE STORY	 WATCH VIDEO
	Kenya	Pokot Massai Rendille Samburu	International Indigenous Network (IN-N)-Regranting	 READ THE STORY	 WATCH VIDEO
	Mexico	Wixarika, Purépecha, Ódame, Zapoteca, Triqui, Ayuuk, Náhuatl, Maya, Chinanteco, Zoque, Otomí, Mé phaa and Mixteca Ñuu Savi	Red Nacional de Abogadas indígenas (RAI)	 READ THE STORY	 WATCH VIDEO
	Nepal	Gurung, Chhantyal, Tamang, Majhi, Shrestha, Rai, Shrepa	National Indigenous Disabled Women Association Nepal (NIDWAN)	 READ THE STORY	 WATCH VIDEO
	Vanuatu	Jarai Alo Kolo Women of Western Santo	Santo Sunset Women Environment Network (SSWEN)	 READ THE STORY	 WATCH VIDEO

OUTPUT 7: ALLIANCES WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

In 2025 the Ayni Fund participated in different platforms to strengthen existing collaborations and explore potential ones at national, regional and global levels, especially with indigenous-led organizations. For instance, Ayni worked closely with the Pawanka Fund and the International Funders for Indigenous Peoples (IFIP). It also contributed to the preparation of the seventh cycle of the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility (IPAF) in Latin America and the Caribbean, supporting grant-making processes aimed at strengthening capacities in food sovereignty, cultural protection, and environmental defense, and deepened its collaboration with Tebtebba and Samburu Women Trust as peer implementers in Asia and Africa.

In line with the mid-term review recommendation to diversify funding partnerships, FIMI's collaboration with Indigenous-led funds sought to strengthen implementation, capacity-building, and collective learning, while advocating for direct funding for Indigenous Women's Organizations in the territories reached by these funding mechanisms. It did, in effect, open space for learning, for instance, based on exchanges on existing practices, tools and methodologies for MEL and communications. It also aimed to raise the visibility of indigenous-led funds as trusted resourcing mechanisms, and position the Ayni Fund among donors as a strategic and appropriate channel for supporting Indigenous Women's organizations globally. This institutional strategy has proven particularly important in the current global context of declining resources from international development cooperation for women's rights and gender equality, broadening the spectrum of potential sources of funds. Strengthening alliances with other indigenous funds is contributing to amplify FIMI's collective reach and influence for building an even stronger movement for advancing the rights of Indigenous Women and Girls.

OUTPUT 8: MEETINGS AND SPACES FOR HORIZONTAL DIALOGUE BETWEEN DONORS AND INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

Linking and Learning events were also held globally, providing a space for organizations to exchange knowledge on strategies for advancing Indigenous Women's individual and collective rights and build solidarity over collective care, spirituality and healing practices.

a. Global events

Following is a brief overview of events at key global policy fora:

✓ *69th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69), March 10-21, NYC*

The CSW69, which marked the **30th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action**, offered a critical opportunity for Indigenous Women to amplify their demands and influence global gender equality policies. FIMI and the Ayni Fund supported Indigenous Women leaders' participation and advocacy in this forum, including LFS grantee partners, facilitating their engagement in high-level discussions and the strengthening of strategic alliances with key actors for the inclusion of Indigenous Women's proposals in policy outcomes. In addition, FIMI issued a Global Study on the Situation of Indigenous Women within the framework of Beijing + 30, providing updated data on the state of implementation of the Platform for Action and other global agreements with regards to Indigenous Women – critical for informing evidence-based advocacy efforts and policy-making.

✓ *CSW69 - Indigenous Women's Coordination Meeting, held on March 10 in NYC*

During the CSW69, Indigenous Women from around the world came together to reflect on the growth of the Indigenous Women's movement, exchange experiences and discuss strategies for continuing to strengthen their presence in global decision-making spaces. They also shared priorities, challenges and pathways for the full achievement of the individual and collective rights of Indigenous Women. The meeting included the participation of several LFS II partners and built on the Political Declaration issued by FIMI to the 69th CSW in September of 2024 defending the individual and collective rights of Indigenous Women, calling for the prevention of violence against Indigenous Women, improved access to justice, intercultural education and protection of indigenous territories, among other issues.



✓ ***CSW69 - Dialogue and Reception within the framework of the CSW69/Beijing+30 “Indigenous Women Breaking Paradigms: From Dreams to Actions”, held on March 13 in NYC***

FIMI convened Indigenous Women leaders from around the world, who shared reflections, challenges and progress in the struggle for their individual and collective rights in light of the Beijing+30 anniversary and the 25 years of FIMI. Among others, participants highlighted the importance of Indigenous Women’s participation in decision-making at all levels, of funding and supporting indigenous communities respecting their cultural perspectives and of recognizing the knowledge, alliances and struggle of Indigenous Women from previous generations.

✓ ***FIMI’s 25-year anniversary global meeting “Weaving Together for Our Rights”, June 19-21, Lima, Peru***

In June, FIMI organized a Global Indigenous Women’s Gathering in Lima, Peru, bringing together women from all seven sociocultural regions to mark its 25th anniversary, including LFS grantee partners. The event served as a space for memory, dialogue, and future projection for Indigenous women, where elders and young leaders shared stories of struggle and triumph, honored pioneers of the movement, and reaffirmed their collective resolve to keep advancing Indigenous Women’s rights.

The opening ceremony featured a conversation with founders, discussing the journey, stories, and shared dreams of the organization. There was also a Circle of Stories of Change with regional groupings during which Indigenous Women leaders and donors discussed decades of transformation, and a Donor Gathering to foster strategic, respectful, and sustainable partnerships and recognizing supporters. Day two included a panel that provided an overview of progress and challenges over the past two and a half decades, and a festival of good practices and lessons learned. The 15th International Film and Communications Festival of Indigenous Peoples organized by CLACPI, CHIRAPAQ, AIDSEP and the Amazonic Film School (Escuela de Cine Amazónico) closed the day, with the screening of short films and documentaries that showcased the visual narratives of indigenous communities.

During the last day, FIMI presented the Plan of Action for CEDAW General Recommendation No. 39, which was developed by the organization with contributions from Indigenous Women from all seven socio-cultural regions. Rooted in international human rights standards, it offers guidance to IWOs and networks and global allies for “aligning advocacy and action with FIMI’s values, principles and programmatic vision” for the advancement of Indigenous Women’s individual and collective rights. In addition, FIMI issued a Political Declaration calling on donors, UN agencies, governments and civil society to align efforts with Indigenous Women’s priorities and to decolonize philanthropy, fostering direct and flexible funding for Indigenous Women’s Organizations. During the event FIMI also awarded recognition to the International Funders for Indigenous Peoples, acknowledging how solidarity from philanthropic partners has strengthened Indigenous Women’s initiatives over the years, and presented the 2025 Indigenous Women’s Leadership Award to regional networks, including the Asian Indigenous Women’s Network (AIWN) and the Network of Indigenous Women in Asia (NIWA), in recognition of their resilience and commitment.

✓ **High-level Global Dialogue on Indigenous Women's Rights at the 24th session of the UN Permanent Forum, April 21-May 2, NYC**

Under the theme “Implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: Best Practices and Challenges,” Indigenous Women’s voices took center stage at the 2025 UNPFII in a high-level global dialogue on Indigenous Women’s rights. The dialogue gathered women leaders from different generations and territories, including Lena Yanina Estrada, Colombia’s Minister of Environment; Autumn Peltier, young water protector from the Anishnabek Nation; Tarcila Rivera Zea, founder of CHIRAPAQ and a key figure in the global Indigenous movement; Sima Bahous, Executive Director of UN Women; and Teresa Zapeta, Executive Director of the International Indigenous Women’s Forum (FIMI). Speakers underscored the role of Indigenous Women as agents of change and safekeepers of culture and territories, and the importance of fully integrating their voices and leadership into all levels of decision-making for building a sustainable future. As a way forward, the dialogue closed with the identification of five pathways for collective action, including addressing persistent structural challenges and advocating for action by States on advancing legal frameworks, culturally appropriate public policies and effective participation of Indigenous Women.

✓ **IV March of Indigenous Women of Brazil “Our Bodies, Our Territory: Guardians of the Planet for Healing the Earth”, August 2-8, Brasilia**

Over 5000 Indigenous Women from Brazil and the rest of Latin America convened in Brasilia to raise their voices in support of life, territories and biodiversity. The march served to build momentum towards climate negotiations at COP30 to push for national and global action in support of climate justice. Indigenous Women leaders from across Latin America gathered over three days in the “ancestral space of global resistance” (tent) to exchange experiences on women’s participation and leadership in territorial governance. As a co-host, FIMI helped facilitate a space for peer learning, strategic reflection, and collective advocacy, strengthening gender-responsive approaches to territorial governance. These exchanges form part of a broader process aimed at expanding networks, reinforcing political agency, and increasing the visibility of Indigenous Women’s leadership in decision-making spaces at all levels.

✓ **Global Summit of Indigenous Women and Youth at COP30, 12-13 November, Belém, Brazil**

On the road to COP30 in Belém, Brazil, FIMI, together with ANMIGA and FILAC, convened the Global Summit of Indigenous Women and Youth Protectors of the Territory, which brought together young Indigenous Women from across the world to give visibility to their demands for climate justice and the defense of their territories. The Summit offered a space for networking, connecting local, regional and global agendas and developing effective advocacy strategies to influence climate negotiations. Young activists from the Amazon to the Arctic collectively issued a political declaration calling for the voices of indigenous young women to be heard in decision-making processes affecting Mother Earth and demanding protection of Indigenous territories and knowledge as essential to any climate solution. Direct climate financing to Indigenous communities and safeguards for Indigenous environmental defenders who face violence every day in their resistance were also highlighted. These recommendations and pathways forward were also shared during the Indigenous Peoples Caucus at COP30. FIMI participated in both of the Caucus and the preparatory meetings for the Caucus.

b. LFS Consortium meetings:

✓ **LFS Cross-Regional Convening and Linking and Learning, held July 1-6, 2025 in Cotonou, Benin**

The convening was organized by the Africa Women’s Development Fund and primarily led by the Jang! Popular Education Collective. Centered around the theme “*Holding the Line, Building Futures: Global South Feminists in Turbulent Times*”, it provided a platform for all four women’s fund that make up LFS to refine their existing strategies, amplify the voices of women’s and indigenous movements, and collectively navigate and respond to the growing backlash against gender equality and human rights. There were approximately 50 participants in attendance, including LFS staff, representatives from the MFA of The Netherlands and Fondation Chanel, and grantee partners from the four women’s funds who were able to reflect on their work and discuss sustainability strategies for SWROs. The Linking & Learning space also allowed the LFS Consortium to reflect on and consolidate lessons from nine years of implementing the programme, strengthen cross-regional alignment, and collectively develop a robust, future-oriented Global South feminist agenda to inform sustainability and resource mobilization strategies for enhancing movement resilience.

3.2 Outcome level progress

OUTCOME 1: THE LEADERSHIP, ORGANIZATION, INSTITUTIONS, NETWORKING, COORDINATION AND ADVOCACY OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN’S ORGANIZATIONS AND NETWORKS ARE STRENGTHENED (WRGE OUTCOME INDICATOR 5.2.1 – SUB INDICATORS WRG045 WOMEN-LED)

Both the Ayni Fund and Leading from the South award central importance to building the organizational capacities of Indigenous Women’s organizations, ranging from operations, project development and planning, monitoring and evaluation, and alliance-building, to networking, advocacy and leadership development. In 2025, all of the 97 IWOs that reported (100%) have indicated an increased institutional capacity within their organization as a result of support from LFS II, whether in their administrative/financial, planning, monitoring and evaluation, coordination and networking capacities. If we break this down by region, we find that the totality of IWO in Asia/Pacific, Africa and LAC that submitted reports strengthened their capacities, underscoring the key role of LFS II in institutional strengthening of IWOs across the globe.

Table 1: Indigenous Women’s organizations that reported increased capacity due to support, by region *

Number of Indigenous Women’s organizations that reported increased institutional capacity due to support provided (administrative, financial, planning, evaluation) **	Total	Asia & Pacific	Africa	LAC
	97/97 (100% of IWO that reported)	32/32 (100% of IWO that reported)	25/25 (100% of IWO that reported)	40/40 (100% of IWO that reported)

* Number of organizations that reported over total per region: Asia 32/47; Africa 25/42; LAC 40/48. **at least one capacity

Additionally, eighty-seven out of ninety IWOs that reported (97%) have indicated that their capacity to contribute to the advancement of women’s rights and gender equality has been strengthened. A breakdown by region shows that 100% of IWO in Asia/Pacific report such progress, while in Africa and LAC 93% of IWO do so, underscoring the relevance of the programme’s support for advancing women’s rights and gender equality and contributing to movement-building.

Table 2: Number of Indigenous Women’s organizations that reported having strengthened their capacity to contribute to the advancement of women’s rights and gender equality, by region *

Number of Indigenous Women’s organizations that reported having strengthened their capacity to contribute to the advancement of women’s rights and gender equality (advocacy, lobbying and leadership)	Total	Asia & Pacific	Africa	LAC
	87/90 (97% of IWO that reported)	28/28 (100% of IWO that reported)	22/22 (93% of IWO that reported)	37/40 (93% of IWO that reported)

* Number of organizations that reported over total per region: Asia 28/47; Africa 22/42; LAC 37/48.

OUTCOME 2: INDIGENOUS WOMEN ARE EMPOWERED AS ACTORS OF CHANGE TO WORK TOWARDS TRANSFORMATION OF THEIR REALITIES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES AND ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN RELEVANT DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES THAT AFFECT OR PROMOTE INDIGENOUS WOMEN’S RIGHTS

A significant number of Indigenous Women were engaged in activities that promoted their human rights and empowerment through the grants awarded by FIMI / Ayni Fund. At least 60,556 Indigenous Women were directly engaged in activities organized by LFS grantee partners to that effect, primarily women between the ages of 18 up to 35 (39%) and 35 through 70 years old (38%). The remaining 13% were under 18 years old, 7% seniors and 3% were women with disabilities. Over half a million (587,139) Indigenous Women were also reached indirectly by the activities of LFS grantee partners, primarily within the ages of 18 to 70 years old (76%), followed by those under 18 years old (14%), those with disabilities (6%), seniors (3%) and LGBTIQ+ (2%).

Table 3: Number of Indigenous Women directly and indirectly engaged in promoting the rights of Indigenous Women

Number of Indigenous Women directly engaged	Number of Indigenous Women indirectly reached
60,556	587,139

With support from Leading from the South, Indigenous Women’s Organizations were able to create space within the public and private sphere **615 times** to raise their political concerns and demands for advancing their individual and collective rights.

Table 4: Number of times that Indigenous Women’ Organizations managed to create spaces in the public and civic spheres for their demands and positions (WRGE Outcome indicator 2.2 sub indicator WRG017)

Number of times IWO managed to create spaces in the public and civic spheres for their demands and positions	Total	Asia & Pacific	Africa	LAC
	615	220 (36%)	15 (2%)	380 (62%)

Throughout 2025 Indigenous Women organizations contributed to changes in public policies, strategies and legislation as a result of their advocacy efforts and leadership. As many as 21 government policies and strategies were blocked, adopted or improved to support Indigenous Women’s voice, agency, leadership and representative participation in decision-making processes. For instance, in Nepal, the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) incorporated Indigenous Women’s climate adaptation priorities and the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) explicitly considered Indigenous Women’s roles. Advocacy strategies to strengthen consideration of Indigenous Women’s needs and proposals in environmental and economic development policies were also successfully deployed at the local level. In Rwanda, for example, local economic development strategies were influenced to provide support for Batwa women’s livelihoods and in Kenya, climate and forest governance committees incorporated the participation of Indigenous Women. And in India, the Palghar District Council, in the state of Maharashtra, issued a directive to 477 Gram Panchayats recognizing Indigenous Women’s contributions. A regional breakdown shows that most of these policies and strategy changes happened in Asia (11 - 52%), followed by Africa (9 - 43%) and lastly LAC (1 - 5%). These changes in policies and strategies, while short of the 2025 target (30), underscore the advocacy efforts and leadership of IWOs considering the drastic changes in context in terms of backlash against women’s rights, closure of civic space and overall democratic backsliding since the programme started.

As for legislative changes, there were 14 laws that were blocked, adopted or improved to support Indigenous Women’s voice, agency, leadership and representative participation in decision-making processes in 2025. For instance, the Democratic Republic of Congo passed a national law that protects Indigenous Pygmy Peoples, and advanced institutional legal reforms inclusive of indigenous peoples with a law creating the Ministry for People Living with Disabilities and Other Vulnerable People. Nepal issued provincial scholarship legal guidelines to enable scholarships for Indigenous Women to pursue higher education. In Uganda and Zimbabwe district and community by-laws addressing violence against women were adopted, while in Colombia indigenous governance rules were revised to allow women on councils. A regional breakdown shows that most of these legislative changes happened in Africa (6 - 43%), followed by LAC (4 - 29%), Asia (3 – 21%) and globally (1 - 7%).

See Annex 1 (IATI REPORTING) below for more details on policy and legislative changes reported by grantees.

Table 5: Number of laws, policies, and strategies that were blocked, adopted or improved to support the voices of Indigenous Women, as well as their agency, leadership and representative participation in decision-making processes (WRGE Outcome indicator 2.1)

Number of laws, policies, and strategies that were blocked, adopted or improved to support the voices of Indigenous Women, as well as their agency, leadership and representative participation in decision-making processes	Target 2025	Total 2025	Asia & Pacific	Africa	LAC	Global
WRGEO13: Government policies and strategies	30	21	11	9	1	0
WRGEO12: Laws	14	14	3	6	4	1
TOTAL	44	35	14	15	5	1

4. 2025 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

According to the main budget categories, the financial report for the year 2025 is presented as follows:

1. Grants

The second disbursements of Call 2024 were made, concluding the total implementation of the Grants budget. In addition, we have received all the project's final reports. The Grants category shows total expenditure of \$ 6'285,860 USD compared to the \$ 6'286,228 budgeted that representing essentially 100% execution.

2. Linking & Learning

This category shows a total expenditure of \$331,991 which represents an execution percentage of 86% of the total operating budget, most of the planned activities were carried out. The 14% variation is due to:

2.5 Participation in LFS Consortium meeting (3 persons)

This was not spent because participation in the LFS Consortium was held virtually. Other events and advocacy spaces where the LFS Consortium participates collectively or where the four funds coincide were used to hold the Consortium meetings.

2.6 Participation in WG (communication, finance and MEL)

Total expenditure amounted to \$14,841 USD, running to 86% of the annual budget implementation. Some regional meetings of the MEL, Communication, and Finance Working Groups were held in Benin and Amsterdam. However, the 14% unspent is due to the participation in WGs were carried out mainly by online meetings.

2.9 Field visits to all regions for medium and large organizations

Expenditures for 59% of the year's operating budget were executed. Visits were made to partner organizations in the 3 regions. Most of the visits were carried out, however we did not execute all the funds since missions carried out to attend other events were used to consummate visits to organizations located in the region and/or territory. Some planned visits were interrupted due to emergency situations or instability in the localities.

2.13 Insurance payment and 2.14 Payment of visas

The expenditures amounted to \$ 3,079 USD- Only 41% was spent on this activity, however all needs for this purpose were covered.

All other items in the L&L category show an execution rate exceeding 90% of the year's operating budget as was planned in the AOP 2025. The main items financed correspond to Collective Care practice in Bogota, L&L in Cambodia, Participation in CSW39, UNPFII, the EDGE Funders Alliance Conference, COP30, L&L in Benin and FIMI's 25th Anniversary.

3. Indirect Costs/Overhead

The amount implemented for this category for 2025 was \$ 437,075 USD, which represents 100% of the amount of the annual operating budget.

All items were implemented, 3.2 Personnel, 3.3 Consulting, 3.4 Communication, 3. Administrative Cost, including 3.1 Evaluation, were executed between 99% and 100% of the year's operating budget as was planned in the AOP 2025.

4. Total Annual Expenditure

The total expenditure for the year 2025 amounted to **\$7,054,925 USD**, which represents a total execution of **99%** of the operating budget for the year.

Although at a general level we have an execution percentage of 99%, in certain lines of the budget we can observe under-execution, this has been explained in section 2. Linking & Learning

The following table summarizes the total expenses recorded in 2025:

Expense category	Balance YEAR 4 2024	Total YEAR 5 2025 Reformulated US\$	Expenses 2025 US\$	To Report 31.12.2025 US\$	Commitments to 31.12.2025	Final Balance to 31.12.2025	% Execution
Grants	5'395,855	890,373	6'285,860			368	100%
Linking & Learning	222,460	163,853	331,991			54,322	86%
9Sub-Total	5'618,315	1'054,226	6'617,851	0.	0.	54,690	99%
Indirect Cost/Overhead	107,558	330,688	437,075			1,171	100%
Total	5'725,873	1'384,914	7'054,925	0.	0.	55,861	99%

The financial report for the year 2025 and the audit report are attached as Annex to this document.

COUNTRY ALLOCATIONS FOR THE INDIRECT COSTS IN PERCENTAGES

The table with the explanation of Indirect Costs expenses in 2025, is included in the Financial Report 2025 attaches as annex to this document.

MULTIANNUAL BUDGET OVERVIEW AND BUDGET REFORMULATIONS 2021-2025

The table presents annual budgets (including any reformulations), accumulated and audited expenses from 2021 to 2023, and expenses up to 31-12-2025. From the analysis of this table, we can observe the main modifications made and the balance to 2025:

In 2021, some lines of the Item Linking & Learning were reformulated due to the pandemic because it was not possible to carry out all the scheduled international trips. All the changes were informed in our Annual Report 2021. Let's see:

- In 2021 \$23,664 USD (100%) from item 2.1 were transferred to item 2.2 to support actions of The Global School, webinars with climate change, land and territory partners and other activities in coordination with FIMI programs. This means 100% was transferred because due to the pandemic it was not possible to carry out all the scheduled international trips. This change was informed in our Annual Report 2021.
 - In 2021 \$29,580 USD from item 2.3 were transferred to item 2.4 to support regional events. This means 50% of the total of this item was transferred.
 - In 2021 \$7,100 USD was transferred from item 2.5 to item 2.6. Participation in WG, for that reason the total variation in this item is -33%
 - In 2021, \$24,000 USD was transferred from item 3.4. Communication to cover Consultancy services of translations, baseline study, Ayni strengthening and services of the Advisory Committee. For that reason, the total increase in this item is 28%.
- In 2022, the reformulation was:
 - \$ 6,000 USD from Item 2.5 and \$ 20,000 USD from Item 2.11 were transferred to item 2.1 to support activities face to face for the Strengthening of the LFS/FIMI team. This was informed in our AOP 2022.
- In 2025 the reformulation was:
 - \$ 20,000 from Item 2.5 were transferred to item 2.4 to carry out a Linking & Learning event between the partner organizations that are implementing Regranting. This was explained in the AOP 2025.
 - \$ 30,000 from item 2.6 were transferred to item 2.11 to support training for LFS partners. This was explained in the AOP 2025.
- Regarding Bank Fees US\$ 17,000 from Item 3.5.1, 3.5.2 y 3.5.3 were transferred to this item. This item fell short, because FIMI, being a global organization, has bank fees for payments to the team, consultants, suppliers, etc., and mostly related to the grantmaking payments.
- Regarding the Personnel item, it was reformulated between the lines according to needs throughout the execution of the program (2021-2025). All the reformulations were informed in our annual AOPs.

REGARDING THE BUDGET BALANCE FROM 2021 TO 31-12-2025:

1. Grants

Expenditure amounted to \$9'110,425 USD representing an execution rate of 100% as follows:

Item	Amount US\$
Call 2021	2'908,000
Call 2023	2'843,133
Call 2024	2'975,000
Regranting 2021	150,000
Regranting 2023	145,000
Advocacy Plan 2023-2024-2025	89,293
Total Grants	9'110,425

2. Linking & Learning

This item over the 5 years of implementation shows a total expenditure of \$ 1'010,576 USD, this means an execution of 95% where the main items financed correspond to Political Participation activities, Regional Events, Visits and L&L organized by each of the 4 funds.

However, the balance basically is explained by the item *2.9 Field visits to all regions for medium and large organizations* that present an accumulated expenditure of 70%. The implementation of LFS II funds was severely delayed in the first years due to the impact of the pandemic and its consequences. The first two years of the project we made few visits, and this accumulated more funds in this category during the last few years

Also, the Item 2.5 show and execution of 23% and the Item 2.6 of 33%, basically because the meetings were carried out mainly by online meetings.

3. Indirect Costs/Overhead

This item over the 5 years of implementation shows a total expenditure of \$ 1'698,039 USD presenting accumulated expenses of 97%.

You can see a Multiannual overview of the budgets in the table included in the financial report 2025 attached as Annex to this document.

4. Total Expenditure 2021-2025

The total expenditure for the period 2021-2025 amounts to \$ 11'776,340 USD, representing 99.5% execution of the total budget.

The following table summarizes the total expenditure recorded in the period 2021-2025:

Expense category	Total Budget 2021 -2025	Expenses 2021- 2025	To Report 31.12.2025	Final Balance to 31.12.2025	% Ejecución
Grants	9'110,794	9'110,425		369	100%
Linking & Learning	1'064,897	1'010,576		54,322	95%
Sub-Total	10'175,691	10'121,001	0	54,691	99%
Indirect Cost/Overhead	1'656,509	1'655,337		1,172	97%
Total	11'832,200	11'776,338	0	55,863	99.5%

The summary of the grant received and its implementation for the five years is as follows:

Details	Us\$
Year 1 - 2021	1'913,031
Year 2 - 2022	2'156,775
Year 3 - 2023	3'682,636
Year 4 - 2024	2'350,115
Year 5 - 2025	1'611,311
Total Disbursements at 31-12-205	11'713,868
(-) Expenses 2021	294,921
(-) Expenses 2022	1'121,550
(-) Expenses 2023	1'010,193
(-) Expenses 2024	2'290,150
(-) Expenses 2025	7'054,925
Total Expenses as of 31-12-2025	11'776,338
Balance to 31.12.2025	(62,470) *

*The amount to be reimbursed to FIMI is EUR 132,776 once the final amount is approved.

OVERVIEW OF IRREGULARITIES THAT OCCURRED UNDER LFS 2

A table with this Overview is attached as Annex to this document. We have no new irregularities to report during year 2025.

5. PRELIMINARY REFLECTIONS

For the AYNi Fund, 2025 was a year for programmatic and organizational consolidation. At the programme level, AYNi focused its efforts on accompanying partners with active projects to ensure effective implementation and a smooth exit strategy in the last year of LFS II. Particular emphasis was placed on MEL practices to better capture results and lessons learned that showcased key achievements by Indigenous Women's groups and helped to underscore the importance of funding Indigenous Women's organizations and movement building. From an operational perspective, the AYNi Fund focused on ensuring a high level of delivery in the use of funds and further streamlining internal procedures and practices.

In addition, the AYNi Fund continued to enhance coordination with other FIMI programmes -- on political participation and global advocacy, capacity-building, and research and knowledge exchange -- to foster greater synergies and cross-programme learning. For instance, supporting the participation of LFS partners in FIMI's Global Leadership and the Intercultural Research Diploma at Columbia University helped to strengthen and amplify the leadership capacities of Indigenous Women leaders and their networking opportunities. This effort has contributed to enhance networking and coordination among Indigenous Women's organizations, networks and women leaders from all regions for their effective and meaningful participation in decision-making processes.

Commissioning the end-term evaluation of LFS II also proved important from a programmatic and organizational perspective. At the level of FIMI and the AYNi Fund, it required collectively defining the terms of said evaluation to ensure organizational learning and also backstopping the process to facilitate a smooth delivery. At the level of the Consortium, it offered an opportunity to collectively strategize on the future of Leading from the South as a group and brand beyond the life of the programme. While coordination among the four women's funds was not exempt from challenges, the gains in terms of political positioning of women's rights and gender equality and the need for directly resourcing women's organizations from the Global South among donors underscored the value of such a strategic partnership and of collective advocacy by women's funds. In that sense, the LFS programme has proven to be a turning point in the life of the four women's funds that are part of the Consortium and its lessons will continue to inform

their work long after its completion. Furthermore, in a context that continued to be characterized throughout 2025 by the limited availability of resources for women's rights and indigenous peoples' rights, and growing backlash against gender equality, the Consortium has consolidated as an effective advocate and replicable model from the Global South for resourcing women's organizations and movement building for the protection and promotion of women's human rights, including Indigenous Women's individual and collective rights.

6. CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

Climate change

During 2025 FIMI continued to play a key role in advocating for climate justice and the rights of Indigenous Women and indigenous peoples more broadly. The COP30, as the foremost global space for influencing climate change policies, offered a key opportunity for LFS grantees to raise their needs and concerns and offer Indigenous Women led-solutions for addressing the climate crisis. At the regional level, the IV March of Indigenous Women of Brazil also allowed LFS grantee partners to learn, exchange and develop collective advocacy strategies for gender-responsive approaches to territorial governance. Supporting participation of Indigenous Women's Organizations for effective advocacy in these spaces is a central strategy of the Leading from the South programme aimed at strengthening Indigenous Women's leadership and access to decision-making spaces at all levels.

Gender

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is a critical global space for advancing women's human rights. In 2025, as in previous years, the Ayni Fund supported the participation of LFS grantees in CSW69 to bring Indigenous Women's voices to global fora, foster networking among grantees and with other women's rights organizations and strengthen partnerships with strategic actors. Given the thirty-year anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, CSW69 was especially significant (*see Output 8 for details*). Additionally, building on the ground-breaking CEDAW General Recommendation 39 on the Rights of Indigenous Women and Girls, FIMI continued to widely disseminate its contents among Indigenous Women's Organizations across regions in accessible formats and foster its appropriation. Particular emphasis was placed on the dissemination in events and via social media of the Plan of Action for CEDAW General Recommendation No. 39, which provides a strategic and operational roadmap to support the effective implementation of said recommendation.

Youth

Throughout 2025, FIMI continued its efforts towards ensuring intergenerational knowledge transfer, with particular emphasis in fostering spaces and dialogue between Indigenous Women elders and young Indigenous Women activists. A high point was the High-Level Interregional, Intergenerational, and Global Dialogue dedicated to the rights of Indigenous Women, held during the 24th session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Emphasis was placed on the importance of strengthening inter-generational leadership as a way of ensuring that new generations continue expanding decision-making spaces and taking local issues to global fora to advance Indigenous Women's individual and collective rights. Additionally, FIMI with other IWOs have developed instruments to assist IWOs and countries to apply CEDAW General Recommendation 39 to youth issues. It is important to note that a focus on youth permeates the entire LFS portfolio, with nearly all projects led by grantee partners including some participation of young Indigenous Women aged 18 through 25 years old. Some LFS projects focused specifically on the development of young women's empowerment, skills and leadership, and while some youth-led IWOs were funded through LFS, it was challenging to reach youth-led groups as they tend to be less established and less formalized.

7. SUSTAINABILITY

In a context marked by the continued decline in resources from international development cooperation and growing backlash against women's human rights and gender equality, the availability of funding to resource Indigenous Wom-

en’s Organizations and women’s rights organizations more broadly continued to be an issue throughout 2025. Recognizing this scenario not merely as a funding challenge, but also a political one given its rootedness *inter alia* in the expansion of anti-rights movements and governments across regions, FIMI/Ayni Fund began a process of rethinking how to safeguard the continuity and autonomy of organizations that have historically been underfunded despite their essential role in defending rights, territories, and life. This process entailed actively engaging in collective conversations to reimagine more resilient funding architectures, strengthening regional alliances, and building Indigenous-led models of sustainability rooted in reciprocity, care, and self-determination. In effect, one of the strategies deployed by the Ayni Fund was to strengthen and broaden its partnerships with indigenous-led funds, engaging in dialogue and strategizing with a type of actor within the funding ecosystem that had been previously under-tapped. Additionally, coinciding with the end of the second phase of Leading from the South, LFS Consortium members engaged in a process of critical internal reflection on the future of the programme, the sustainability of Southern women’s rights organizations, and effective advocacy for flexible, long-term funding to support movement building. Lastly, FIMI and the Ayni Fund continued to actively foster strategies to strengthen organizational capacities, build regional alliances, and advocate for flexible, long-term funding mechanisms grounded in the principles of respect, reciprocity, and co-investment that guide Indigenous philanthropy.

8. RISK ANALYSIS

Risk management for Leading from the South is aligned with FIMI’s Institutional Risk Management Plan, and as such entails holding periodical reviews to account for any changes in context that may require adjusting risks to the programme and their mitigation strategies. In a rapidly evolving global context that directly affects the rights of Indigenous Women and indigenous peoples more broadly, such a review gains utmost relevance. Following is a review of the risks as outlined in the LFS II 2025 Annual Operational Work Plan and the mitigation strategies effectively deployed throughout the year to prevent or address them.

Table D: Risk assessment and mitigation strategies effectively deployed

Risk	Mitigation strategies deployed
<p>A. PROGRAM/INSTITUTIONAL Being a global mechanism can slow down the processes, slow to receive feedback or to get agreement and engagement from mechanism partners (L-probable, I-tolerable)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared the leadership and decision making within FIMI’s structure: What decisions including Ayni Fund are delegated to FIMI board members • Established basic communication standards and their continued review • Gave advance notice of when feedback or engagement was required • Strengthened the role of the FIMI regional teams in each region to consolidate processes.
<p>D. CONTEXTUAL Communication with the grassroots partners and other IW’s organization: lack of Internet access or other technologies (L-probable, I-tolerable)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitored the geographic contexts and which organizations have trouble with communications – e.g. remote areas • Developed tailored approaches for organizations in areas with communication challenges Considered their technological limitations and provided more time for responses from these organizations. • Did extra follow-up to keep up with those IW organizations • Mapped and created alliances with different actors to disseminate and collaborate to support partners • Increased field visits to guarantee communication and partners’ needs.
<p>J. CONTEXTUAL Change of local authorities and local governance in charge of the projects may delay a project (L-probable, I-acceptable)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FIMI took this risk into account during the project selection phase. We ensured better liaising and maintaining good communication and relationships with partners. • Provided additional support and flexibility to the partners to maintain the relationship with concerned authorities
<p>K. CONTEXTUAL Shrinking civic space (L-probable, I-acceptable)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessed /mapped the ground realities at different levels with FIMI’s partners, regional Indigenous Women’s networks, and partner organizations.

<p>A.F. CONTEXTUAL Partners and communities are affected by disasters and climate-related crises and cannot maintain the same level of involvement, advocacy, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicated with partner organizations to understand what was happening locally. • Provided mutual support through accompaniment. • Allocated budget lines for partners based on highly vulnerable contexts. • Developed a community of practice to share good practices and lessons learned from different project implementation experiences in the context of environmental and climate disasters.
<p>L. CONTEXTUAL Patriarchal attitudes which prevent women's participation in activities and their involvement in decision making spaces or make it difficult (L-probable, I-unacceptable)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoted IW in political spaces at all levels • Organized community dialogues that allowed women and men to express their views and concerns in safe spaces, fostering an inclusive atmosphere. • Implemented monitoring systems to regularly assess women's participation and the effectiveness of promoted activities, making adjustments based on the results.
<p>N. PROGRAM/INSTITUTIONAL Individual capabilities of staff and partners not at levels they need to be: this slows the progress of initiatives and activities are not as effective as they could be (L-possible, I-acceptable)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identified and strengthened staff and partners' skills • Ensured team's work and collaboration through reinforcement • Plan for replacement capacity in emergency situations. • Offered training courses to FIMI staff and partners, and supported them to attend external training to improve skills and competencies • Promoted specific training according to specialty or theme in the different levels occupied by FIMI consultants and partners. • Conducted situation analyses and provided additional support mechanism as per requirement
<p>P. PROGRAM/INSTITUTIONAL Challenges receiving inputs and documents from the IW's partners (L-probable, I-tolerable)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicated with partners to explain why their achievements and successes are important to get visibility and future funding • Closely accompanied the partners in drafting legal and financial document for grant making, project implementation, and reporting • Carried out a brief assessment of partners and fiscal sponsors capacity for program and finance management. • Offered frequent reminders; regular followed up about the timelines; closely communicated with grassroots partner organizations and participants
<p>U. CONTEXTUAL Security and protection matters of partners and IW (L-possible, I-intolerable)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitored the regional contexts, identified the most effective communication means and mobilized networks during the grant making process, shared information. • Used alternative ways of contacting our partners as per security situation (encrypted e-mail ID, Telegram, Anonymous organization name). • Linked with fellow funds for protection and security. • Developed and implemented safe spaces for social media posts and dissemination of our work to protect participants (e.g. not sharing photos that identify them or show where they are). • Ensured safe and secure collecting of participants' data. • Provided or supported partners by training on documenting human rights and digital security and reporting on them safely.
<p>W. FRAUD AND CORRUPTION National regulations or other barriers do not allow FIMI to make payments to individuals or organizations in those countries making it difficult to give grants or funding to partner organizations from those nations) (L-possible, I-acceptable)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stayed Informed about countries that have these barriers. • Found viable and effective ways to allow funds to flow, that are in keeping with the regulations of the countries and do not pose high risk to FIMI. • Used contacts in the network to find these channels. • Explored if FIMI had any partnerships with key actors on the ground in those countries.

9. GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

The second edition of the Leading from the South programme enabled FIMI and the AYNI Fund to identify and institutionalize a series of practices related to grant-making, networking, advocacy, and institutional strengthening that have contributed to its organizational growth. Similarly, building on lessons from the first edition, this second iteration offered new lessons of value for strengthening implementation of the programme and streamlining the AYNI Fund's operations for more effective and efficient support to Indigenous Women's organizations. Following is a series of

good practices and lesson learned by FIMI and the AYNI Fund in 2025 that reflect accumulated practice and learnings over the past five years.

9.1 Good Practices

On Grant-Making

- **Diverse and strategic grantmaking modalities:** The combination of open calls, direct grants, and regrants mechanisms enabled the AYNI Fund to reach a broader, more diverse, and strategically aligned group of Indigenous Women's Organizations across regions and countries, while responding to different organizational capacities and contexts.
- **Collective care as a cross-cutting approach:** The integration of collective care, healing, spirituality, and ancestral practices by grantees into project design and implementation strengthened community resilience, reinforced Indigenous knowledge systems, and supported the long-term sustainability of initiatives.
- **Technical accompaniment as a capacity-building strategy:** Ongoing technical accompaniment during proposal development, implementation, and reporting phases significantly improved coherence between objectives, budgets, and timelines. This support contributed to stronger compliance, clearer narratives, and enhanced organizational capacities.
- **Launch of the Elderly Dignity Program:** The AYNI Fund initiated the implementation of the Elderly Dignity Program, a unique grant modality designed to recognize and honor Indigenous Women elders for their leadership, life trajectory, and sustained contributions to their communities, organizations, and movements, acknowledging their critical role in intergenerational knowledge transmission and collective leadership.

On Networking and Advocacy

- **Engagement in Indigenous-led funding spaces:** FIMI and the AYNI Fund actively participated in Indigenous-led funds processes, contributing to collective learning, strategy development, and the strengthening of Indigenous-led philanthropic models.
- **Global advocacy and convening power:** FIMI led and participated in key advocacy spaces, including CSW69 and the 25th Anniversary of FIMI, bringing together donors, partners, and Indigenous Women leaders to articulate a shared vision for rights-based, feminist, and Indigenous-led philanthropy.

On Institutional Strengthening

- **Consistent coordination and internal coherence:** Weekly coordination meetings across regions, including the administrative team, proved critical for ensuring follow-up on processes and strengthening global alignment. Monthly team meetings focused on team building, learning, and collective reflection further reinforced internal cohesion.
- **Strategic partnerships:** Ongoing collaboration with Women Win strengthened shared efforts to advance the rights and empowerment of Indigenous girls and young women through sports, arts, and cultural initiatives.

9.2 Lessons learned

On grant-making

- **Flexibility for emergency and conflict contexts:** Organizations operating in emergency or conflict settings require more flexible, simplified, and faster grantmaking and reporting procedures to ensure timely and effective support.
- **Youth inclusion and thematic gaps:** There is a need to proactively strengthen the inclusion and monitoring of youth-led Indigenous Women's Organizations and to address underrepresented thematic areas such as

sexual and reproductive health and LGBTQ+ rights. Targeted or thematic calls may be an effective mechanism to reach these populations.

- **Balancing administrative and programmatic processes:** While technical accompaniment has been strong, improved coordination with administrative processes is needed to reduce report approval timelines and ensure smoother grant closure.

On networking and advocacy

1. **Inclusive participation and accessibility:** Future convenings require increased investment in translation, interpretation, and technical support to ensure meaningful participation of all partners.
2. **Systematizing advocacy learnings:** There is a need to strengthen mechanisms to capture, systematize, and activate lessons emerging from donor reports, advocacy spaces, and interregional convenings to inform strategic decision-making.

On institutional strengthening

- **Strengthening internal learning systems:** Despite advances in monitoring, gaps remain in systematically capturing, sharing, and using learning across programs and regions.
- **Knowledge transfer between levels:** As regional technical teams strengthen accompaniment of partners, it is essential to ensure that learning and knowledge are effectively transferred to coordination and decision-making levels.
- **Expanding the role of technical teams:** There is an opportunity to further strengthen the role of technical teams so that their work goes beyond report review and more effectively supports organizational development and long-term capacity strengthening.



ANNEXES



ANNEX 1: IATI indicators

WRGE 2.1:

No. of laws, policies, and strategies blocked, adopted, or improved to support the voice of Indigenous Women, as well as their agency, leadership, and representative participation in decision-making processes (WRG013, government policies and strategies - link SCS2)

	Baseline 2021	Total target by end 2025	Current total 2025	Total Asia & Pacific	Total Africa	Total Latin America & Caribbean	Global
Quantitative	127	30	21	11	9	1	0
Qualitative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEPAL: National Adaptation Plan (NAP) incorporating Indigenous Women climate adaptation priorities (NAP includes Indigenous Women’s priorities) • NEPAL: National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) including Indigenous Women (Biodiversity strategies explicitly consider Indigenous Women’s roles) • NEPAL: Draft Agriculture Policy 2082 integrating Indigenous Women priorities (Agriculture guidelines include women’s participation and benefits) • NEPAL: Local government budget allocations supporting Indigenous Women livelihood and awareness programs (Funding allocated to Indigenous Women livelihood projects) • BANGLADESH: Customary justice system reform allowing women Karbari to participate in arbitration (Women Karbari formally recognized in dispute resolution) • PAKISTAN: Local governance planning commitments reserving seats for Indigenous Women (Reserved seats included in local councils) • INDIA: Palghar District Council directive to 477 Gram Panchayats recognizing Indigenous Women’s contributions (Local governance councils formally recognize women’s roles) • INDIA: Local government collaboration frameworks improving transparency in service delivery to Indigenous communities (multi-stakeholder collaboration frameworks enhanced) • VANUATU: Vanuatu Skills Partnership agreement integrating Indigenous Women’s environmental and sustainable development work (Skills programs include Indigenous Women leadership) • THAILAND: CEDAW Committee commitment to incorporate gaps in General Recommendation No. 39 identified by Indigenous Women (International guidance informing policy improvements) • CAMBODIA: Internal organizational policy expanding Indigenous Women leadership positions (Organizational roles expanded for Indigenous Women) • KENYA: Policy on Minority and Marginalised Communities implementation including Indigenous Women (National policy integrates Indigenous Women inclusion) • KENYA: County climate governance committees including Indigenous Women (Women included in county-level climate committees) • KENYA: Forest governance committees integrating Indigenous Women participation (Indigenous Women participate in forest management) • KENYA: Community land registration frameworks enabling women land ownership (Legal pathways created for women land rights) • KENYA: Biodiversity restoration strategy integrating Indigenous Women leadership (Women lead biodiversity initiatives) • TANZANIA: Government consultation mechanism requiring Indigenous Women’s organization participation in rural infrastructure projects (Women’s groups consulted on rural development) • TANZANIA: Land Tenure Improvement Project governance framework recognizing Indigenous Women’s organization leadership (Women’s organizations participate in land governance) • MADAGASCAR: Local government participation policy encouraging Indigenous Women participation in policy meetings (Policy encourages Indigenous Women’s engagement) • RWANDA: Local economic development strategies supporting Batwa women livelihoods (Women-led economic initiatives supported) • PARAGUAY: Municipal commitments to increase Indigenous Women representation in decision-making spaces (Municipalities implement gender quotas) 						

WRGE 2.1:

No. of laws, policies, and strategies blocked, adopted, or improved to support the voice of Indigenous Women, as well as their agency, leadership, and representative participation in decision-making processes (WRG012, laws - link SCS2)

	Baseline 2021	Total target by end of 2025	Current total 2025	Total Asia & Pacific	Total Africa	Total Latin America & Caribbean	Global
Quantitative	127	14	14	3	6	4	1
Qualitative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MALAYSIA: Native Customary Rights (NCR) legal rulings (Court decisions recognizing Indigenous land rights and strengthening NCR legal precedent) • INDIA: Supreme Court litigation on Indigenous Women’s rights (Legal cases brought by IWOs challenging systemic violence and discrimination) • NEPAL: Provincial scholarship legal guidelines (Government regulations enabling scholarships for Indigenous Women to pursue higher education) • KENYA: African Court ruling on Ogiek land rights (Court ordered government to recognize Ogiek collective land title) • DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO: National law protecting Indigenous Pygmy Peoples (Legislation recognizing rights of Indigenous Peoples) • DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO: Law creating Ministry for People Living with Disabilities and Other Vulnerable People (Institutional legal reform including Indigenous Peoples) • UGANDA: District by-laws addressing violence against women (Local government legal instruments protecting women) • ZIMBABWE: Community by-laws addressing gender-based violence (Traditional leadership and local governance mechanisms enforcing penalties) • TANZANIA: Legal action on forced evictions of Maasai communities (Court case challenging displacement and land rights violations) • PERU: Regional Ordinance N° 424-2022-GR PUNO (Regional law adopting the Agenda of Aymara, Quechua and Uru Women) • BOLIVIA: Municipal regulations protecting women’s rights (Local legal frameworks implemented through SLIM services) • BOLIVIA: Municipal declaration of Day of Women in Sports (official municipal legal declaration recognizing Indigenous Women) • COLOMBIA: Cabildo governance reforms (Indigenous governance rules revised to allow women on councils) • GLOBAL: CEDAW General Recommendation No. 39 (International legal guidance recognizing the rights of Indigenous Women). Plan of Action 						

WRGE 2.2: No. of times CSOs succeed in creating space for CSO demands and positions on women’s voice, agency, leadership, and representative participation in decision-making processes in the public, private, and civic sphere through agenda setting, influencing the debate and movement-building (WRG017 - link SCS3)



		Base-line			Asia		Africa		Latin America & the Caribbean	
			Total target 2025	Current 2025	Target 2025	Current 2025	Target 2025	Current 2025	Target 2025	Current 2025
WRGE 2.2 indicator WRG017	No. of times CSOs succeed in creating space for CSO demands and positions on women's voice, agency, leadership, and representative participation in decision-making processes in the public, private, and civic sphere through agenda setting, influencing the debate and movement-building	0	112	615	34	220	38	15	40	380
Qualitative information	IWOs reported creating spaces in the public and civic spheres a total of 615 times, raising their demands and positions on the individual and collective rights of Indigenous Women, the majority from LAC (62%), followed by Asia (36%) and Africa (2%). These spaces included meetings with decision-makers, as well as participation in political processes and in public events. Issues advocated for ranged from defense of the territories, climate change, healing, and children and youth, to indigenous justice, violence against women, gender equality and women's leadership, among others.									

CONSOLIDATED DATA FOR THE ENTIRE LFS PROGRAMME 2021-2025

WRGE indicator 5.2.1:

No. of Indigenous Women's Organizations (sub-indicator WRG045, women-led) that report having strengthened their capacity to contribute to the enforcement of women's rights and gender equality (advocacy, lobbying, and leadership) - WRG045

	Base-line 2021	Year	Total target	Actual total	Total Asia & Pacific	Total Africa	Total LAC	Global
Quantitative	34	2025	70	87	28	22	37	
	34	2024	30	61	21	13	27	
	34	2023	58	58	20	22	15	
	34	2022	30	39	9	18	12	
	34	2021	37	27	-	-	-	
	total		225	272	78	75	91	

Note: The data accounts for the number of IWOs that actually reported each year.

WRGE indicator 5.2.1:

No. of Indigenous Women's Organizations (sub-indicator WRG048, youth-led) that report having strengthened their capacity to contribute to the enforcement of women's rights and gender equality (advocacy, lobbying, and leadership) - WRG048

	Base-line 2021	Year	Total target	Actual total	Total Asia & Pacific	Total Africa	Total LAC	Global
Quantitative	0	2025	5	5				
	0	2024	2	2	0	0	2	
	0	2023	2	3	0	2	1	
	0	2022	3	3	0	2	1	
	0	2021						
	total		12	13				

Note: The data accounts for the number of IWOs that actually reported each year.

WRGE 2.1:

No. of laws, policies, and strategies blocked, adopted, or improved to support the voice of Indigenous Women, as well as their agency, leadership, and representative participation in decision-making processes (WRG013, government policies and strategies - link SCS2)

	Base-line 2021	Year	Total target	Actual total	Total Asia & Pacific	Total Africa	Total LAC	Global
Quantitative	127	2025	30	21	11	9	1	0
	127	2024	25	28	5	15	8	
	127	2023	13	34	8	19	7	
	127	2022		11	2	7	2	-
	127	2021						
	total		126	34	68	23	1	

WRGE 2.1:

No. of laws, policies, and strategies blocked, adopted, or improved to support the voice of Indigenous Women, as well as their agency, leadership, and representative participation in decision-making processes (WRG012, laws - link SCS2)

	Base-line 2021	Year	Total target	Actual total	Total Asia & Pacific	Total Africa	Total LAC	Global
Quantitative	127	2025	14	14	3	6	4	1
	127	2024	11	13	3	5	5	
	127	2023	10	6	0	4	2	
	127	2022		4	0	2	1	1
	127	2021						
	total			37	6	17	12	

WRGE 2.2:

No. of times CSOs succeed in creating space for CSO demands and positions on women’s voice, agency, leadership, and representative participation in decision-making processes in the public, private, and civic sphere through agenda setting, influencing the debate and movement-building (WRG017 - link SCS3)

	Base-line 2021	Year	Total target	Actual total	Total Asia & Pacific	Total Africa	Total LAC
Quantitative	0	2025	112	615	220	15	380
	0	2024	108	303	15	33	255
	0	2023	105	349	36	83	230
	0	2022	100	275	15	53	53
	0	2021	0	0			
	total		415	1542	286	184	918

ANNEX 2: DESCRIPTION OF IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	STATUS
COMPONENT 1: GRANTMAKING	
<p>Activity 1.1 Grant Disbursement After assessing and approving their interim narrative and financial report, FIMI's Ayni Fund will provide a second disbursement for the remaining projects selected and implemented under the 2023 Open Call and 2024 Direct Call. The financial resources will be from budget line items 1.1, 1.2, 1.3</p>	COMPLETED
<p>Activity 1.2. Accompany Ayni Fund partner organizations project implementation and reporting (2023 and 2024) The Ayni Fund team will continue to accompany all the Ayni Fund partners in all regions to advance their implementation and timely submission of their intermediary and final reports. Three regional teams (one per region), composed of a regional coordinator and at least two technical people, will accompany partners in monitoring the implementation and preparation of their technical and financial reports, providing budget revisions if needed. Accompaniments will be carried out virtually and by phone. Monitoring and tracking are necessary to maintain their accountabilities at the organizational and Ayni Fund levels, being mindful of the time constraint for the closure of LFS II.</p>	COMPLETED
<p>Activity 1.3. Implementing the M&E strategy, receiving and analyzing partners' reports integrating with International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI), SALESFORCE, and Database, with regular information updates In line with the FIMI's TOC and strategic plan framework, the Ayni Fund MEL system will continue to improve its data collection and management from an intercultural and intersectional perspective, adapting FIMI's and MFA's requirements. This process will engage and involve the entire team, ensuring collective contribution to data compilation, analysis, and systematization as core to learning. The harmonized simple format for midterm and final reports, including a disaggregated data matrix, will be reviewed in the future to adapt to the partners' capacity as necessary. The Ayni Fund will continue to organize internal consultations and partner discussions based on insights from previous years. This information will be documented in IATI and Salesforce, and will also contribute to the final reports of LFSII.</p>	COMPLETED
<p>Act 1.4. Regranting: Implementation, Learning synthesis, exchanges, project closure The Ayni Fund team will accompany the final phase and closure of the two pilot projects initiated under LFS II in Africa and LAC respectively in 2022 and 2023. A learning and exchange event will be organized with implementing partner organizations, including other two regranting exercises initiated by the Ayni Fund in 2024 (in Asia and LAC) based on the experiences of the projects under LFSII. Regranting exercises have proven to be an efficient and safe channel to reach grassroots organizations with many limitations in accessing financial resources. Reflection meetings with the regranting partners will be organized as part of the L&L activities.</p>	COMPLETED
<p>Act 1.5. Financing Annual Advocacy Plans As FIMI's Global Leadership School (GLS) celebrates its first decade, it has conducted an intensive evaluation of its lessons and challenges that serve as input for a new stage in the training of Indigenous Women's leadership. Within the framework of the collaboration between the Ayni Fund and the GLS, at least three impact plans for the projects presented by the participants will be financed.</p>	COMPLETED
COMPONENT 2: LINKING & LEARNING (L&L)	
<p>Act. 2.1 Participation in the L&L by Consortium member In 2025, two major in-person events are expected within the LFS Consortium, both hosted by AWDF in the Africa Region: A Cross-thematic regional event. A wide L&L event. FIMI plans to attend these events, embracing the opportunity to network and connect with Ayni Fund team members in Africa and peers in the LFS Consortium. These events also represent a unique opportunity to connect partner Indigenous Women Organizations with Women Organizations from the global South that are expected to attend both meetings to build and articulate collaborative processes and actions within the consortium and their regions. The L&L activities will be in person and take place by the end of the first half of 2025 in the Africa region in close coordination with all four funds and MFA. Budget line item 2.1 will be utilized.</p>	COMPLETED

<p>Act. 2.2 Articulation with partners to participate in FIMI programs and international-level advocacy</p> <p>The coordination and articulation between FIMI's strategic programs and the Ayni Fund have been improved and strengthened. However, the execution of this expenditure line has been below expectations because at least three in-person events were canceled, first due to the pandemic and then due to visa problems.</p> <p>The completion of three decades of the Beijing Platform and Plan of Action at CSW69 and UNFCCC COP 30 are relevant spaces to make visible CEDAW's RG39 as the first binding instrument for the recognition of the rights of Indigenous Girls and Women in the world. For FIMI, these processes are intertwined with its 25th anniversary, for which we are coordinating with partners and allies a set of advocacy actions in these global events.</p> <p>Amplifying the leadership and capacities for IW partners of LFS by supporting their participation in FIMI Global Leadership and the Intercultural Research Diploma next editions in 2025.</p> <p>2025 promises an intense agenda with multiple global advocacy actions for the Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous Women's movement.</p> <p>Ayni Fund will continue to join efforts with other strategic programs within FIMI to ensure the effective and meaningful participation of Indigenous Women leaders from all regions.</p> <p>Budget item 2.2 will be utilized.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p>
<p>Act. 2.3 Participation in other Funds articulation events and international advocacy level FIMI's Ayni Fund will continue and strengthen its alliance with each of the LFS consortium Funds. We will continue to promote actions and exchanges within the regions with sister funds to improve our practice. The International Funders for Indigenous Peoples (IFIP) network will be another important space for convergence and collaboration with other funds, especially since 2025, IFIP will have its biannual conference scheduled for February in Kenya.</p> <p>The Ayni Fund will continue collaborating with Women Win in advocacy and resource mobilization actions to better support Indigenous girls and adolescents in their agendas and cultural revitalization initiatives, art, and sports for empowerment.</p> <p>Budget item 2.3 will be utilized.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p>
<p>Act. 2.4 Regional events of Ayni partners</p> <p>As we explained in activity 1.4, with the implementation of the Regranting pilot projects, the Ayni Fund has strengthened its capacity to accompany and support Indigenous Women's organizations in communities and territories we could not access directly. Implementing Regranting has also been an opportunity to improve the capacities of IWOs that are learning to manage funds and support smaller organizations within their country. Based on the learning from LFSII, the Ayni Fund started other regranting projects with other funding sources and organizations. We propose a Linking and Learning event between the partner organizations that are implementing Regranting with some representatives of the organizations that have received the resources. This exercise will allow them to improve their practice and we at FIMI can facilitate better support.</p> <p>A second exchange and learning event will focus on sharing the results of the systematization carried out by FIMI on Collective Care, Spirituality, and Healing, as well as the presentation of those created by Indigenous Women to strengthen collective self-care.</p> <p>The budget source will be budget item 2.4. and 2.5.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p>
<p>Act. 2.5 Participation in LFS Consortium</p> <p>Participation in the LFS Consortium will be held mainly virtually. Other events and advocacy spaces where the LFS Consortium participates collectively or where the four funds coincide will be used to hold Consortium meetings. As the LFS consortium is committed to advocacy and resource mobilization, partial use of these funds is expected; however, part of these resources will be transferred and allocated to the L&L exchange meetings mentioned in activities 1.4 and complementary to line 2.4.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p>
<p>Act. 2.6 Participation in Working Group (WG) (finance, communication, programmatic, and M&E)</p> <p>Participation in WGs will be carried out mainly by online meetings. WG meetings will mainly aim to protect the continuity of LFS, build a MEL framework to measure the impact of LFS II, develop communication products, and follow up on reporting. FIMI expects to coordinate regional meetings with the different funds participating in the Consortium in all regions.</p> <p>The Funds allocated to finance WG Consortium meetings have been allocated to training for LFS partners planned in activity 2.11.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p>
<p>Act. 2.7 Learning and self-learning routes</p> <p>At FIMI, learning is a continuous practice at all levels, listening to our partners, systematizing and reflecting on our institutional practice, and in collaborating with other funds and allies. A dedicated Community of Practice on Climate Change in Asia is part of this exercise. To enrich this practice, we formulated a self-learning methodology and a road-map and action plan. We propose holding a series of virtual workshops and a face-to-face meeting to disseminate the contents of this methodology and action plan within FIMI and in collaboration with partner organizations.</p> <p>Budget item 2.7 will be utilized.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p>

<p>Act. 2.8 Exchange between the Ayni team and other funds The existing collaboration with Indigenous Peoples-led funds like the Pawanka Fund will be strengthened. An additional partnership will be added with the Cultural Survival Fund. The Ayni Fund will actively collaborate, learn, and exchange with a group of Indigenous and Local Community Funds in the Global South. This collaboration program includes organizational support and learning circles for women and gender-diverse leaders. Budget item 2.8 remaining from previous years will be utilized.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p>
<p>Act. 2.9 Field visits to all regions for medium and large grant organizations Visiting projects under implementation is essential to strengthen the Ayni Fund’s co-investment approach. However, in the first years of LFS II, our implementation was severely delayed due to the impact of the pandemic on the team and the difficulties and restrictions on travel to the territories. In 2024, we made a special effort to execute funds from L&L grants, events, and visit projects. However, the most significant amount of implementation is planned for 2025 to support the closing of projects and document the results. The amount we plan to execute, distributed across the four working regions, will be an opportunity to strengthen ties and twinning with partners. Budget item 2.9 will be utilized.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p>
<p>Act. 2.10 Strengthening of the LFS/FIMI team, face-to-face meetings, and participation in communities of practice Strengthening the Ayni Fund team to better support organizations and achieve greater efficiency in reviewing reports, learnings, and impacts has been an ongoing process. We have adjusted roles, added new consultants, and introduced improvements in communication. Face-to-face meetings have been essential for team building, cohesion, and trust to fulfill the strategic plan. In this sense, a face-to-face meeting of the team is planned for the first weeks of 2025, and in the second half of the year, we plan a face-to-face meeting of the regional and area coordinators to make the necessary adjustments to the closing process. Budget item 2.10 will be utilized.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p>
<p>Act. 2.11 Strengthening of the management information system There was a significant improvement in the capabilities of use and management of the online platform established for the operation of Ayni Fund grant-making. This platform has been in continuous use, starting with the 2023 Open Call, and it is expected that in 2025, we continue to work on it. To strengthen the capacities of our team and partner organizations, we have initiated a consultancy for the production of a series of very basic training modules, which can be adapted to different languages and contexts. These modules will serve as support material for virtual and face-to-face training planned to be carried out with the support of local consultants and also linked to the planned field visits. The remaining budget from previous years will cover this cost. Budget item 2.11 will be utilized, and additional funds will be used from Budget item 2.6.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p>
<p>Act. 2.12 Strengthening of Information Communication and Technology (ICT), access to technologies for FIMI’s partners and team We have initiated a consultancy that will strengthen the capacities of the FIMI team and the IW partner organizations by developing training materials to improve the deliverables requested from all project implementers, unify templates, and facilitate both parties’ application and review processes. The remaining budget from previous years will cover this cost. Budget item 2.12 will be utilized.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p>
<p>COMPONENT 3: COMMUNICATION & VISIBILITY</p>	
<p>3.1 Publications and Reproductions Indigenous Women weave everyday stories about their strategies to overcome barriers, achieve transformation, and defend their individual and collective rights. These stories are captured in bilateral meetings, reports, visits, and efforts dedicated to documenting their experiences. With the support of consultants, we are documenting stories of change and impact in all the regions where our partners are located. These documents are produced in close collaboration with the FIMI Communications Team. By 2025, we plan for professional photographers and documentary filmmakers to accompany some of the visits to partners to produce quality audiovisual recordings and feed into the publications we produce to highlight the achievements and challenges of Indigenous Women. The remaining resources from the previous year plus Budget item 3.4 will be utilized.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p>
<p>3.2 Visibility Materials As part of documenting the learnings and results of LFSII, several publications related to the intercultural philanthropy approach, learning path, and collective care are being processed. Materials to support basic IT training, admin procedures, and so on are also being planned. For the multiple events scheduled, including the 25th anniversary of FIMI, we are planning various visibility materials that position and make the priorities of Indigenous Women visible. Budget item 3.4 will be utilized.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p>

ANNEX 3:

Healing Heritage: The Spiritual Path of Muisca Women

The Muisca have experienced multiple forms of violence and dispossession in Colombia. Located in the heart of Bogotá, the Muisca Council of Bosa confronts these abuses by defending the territory and recovering ancestral practices. The Indigenous Women who are part of it have grown stronger within their clans through rituality and self-care.

Antonio Mundaca

A story of pain

Dozens of women embrace around the fire. The spiral of white smoke rises above them. They have come out of the Cusmuy, the common sacred house where they shared medicine and spirituality to make offerings to the lagoons.

They are Indigenous Women descended from the Muisca. They look into each other's eyes: they play maracas and drums, they see themselves as weavers or goldsmiths. Dressed in white, they hold in their hands the sacred antiquity of the Eastern Andes in the center of Bogotá, the capital of Colombia.

As part of the Muisca, they, their sisters and brothers, or their ancestors have experienced multiple forms of violence: forced displacement due to armed conflict or the consequences of climate change and pollution; territorial dispossession by extractive companies or real-estate speculators; racism, denial, or cultural appropriation; gender-based violence inside or outside their community. Alone, or scattered, Muisca Women have not been able to confront these violences. **The return to their ancestral territory, and its recognition through collective struggle, has allowed them to find strategies to confront abuse and strengthen their identity** as Indigenous People and as women.

The struggle for territory

For over ten years, the clans gathered within the Muisca Council of Bosa have fought and negotiated with the District of Bogotá so that their ancestral territories may be recognized in the face of urban expansion and illegal occupations. **Today, the Council is a special-status organization recognized by Colombia's Ministry of the Interior.** The clans that make it up are original inhabitants of Bacatá, the Indigenous name for Bogotá. An ancient people in which men and women worked the land and fished, when the territories were vast and fertile, and the river waters were not polluted.

Recognition of the Council allowed its members to promote activities to recover memory and ancestral knowledge. Traditional practices are carried out there to reclaim their culture, education, medicine, economy, forms of government, and their own justice systems. In this way, the legacy of the ancestors remains alive in the blood of the different clans that make up the Council. Gathered in talking circles, elder men and women share their stories and knowledge so the whole community can put them into practice.

The Muisca, guardians of the seed, uphold a form of organization in spiral, in which the man is at the tip, but the foundations and continuity belong to the woman. This is seen in the Myth of Bague, which says that in the beginning only Bague, the Grandmother Mother, existed. When she cried out, the gods, light, plants, animals, and the Muisca appeared. For Muisca women, they were sown like stars in space. Even after the Council was recognized, self-determination has remained a difficult process for them, because their daily lives are governed by the laws of family clans.

Healing through the word

“Before FIMI’s support, Muisca Women did not know how to identify the wounds caused by the lack of recognition of their role as women within the community; they felt that their word had no value, that they were not enough,” reflects Diana Cobos. This community leader coordinated the project *Being an Indigenous Woman in Search of Healing*, supported by FIMI’s Ayni Fund, and since then, she confesses, her chest has been lit with joy.

Of the 115 women who began working on inner healing, 95 completed the year-long process that helped them in their journey. Dropout was minimal, because each gathering always offered new discoveries through ritual, cultural, and psychological practices. Diana explains that it served as a transition in which knowledge keepers, midwives, and women leaders participated. Together, they grew and released the burdens they carried individually, within their families, and collectively: “This project empowered women. We moved from an internal process to one of integration, where we discovered ourselves as part of a collective, exposed our vulnerabilities, and became strong; we left abandonment behind.”

Carmen Elena Neuta, a participant in the project, says: “These gatherings gave us the opportunity to unburden ourselves, to get to know our companions who are living through tremendous grief.” She happily shares that she carried out a purification ritual: she bathed twice in crystal-clear waters, and was able to forgive others and forgive herself.

Olga Pinto feels liberated: “I learned to let go of hatred, to think about myself, to understand that at home one thinks about one’s husband, one’s children, but never about oneself, and these workshops have taught us that, to recognize ourselves.” She wrote a letter to herself in which she discovered her strengths and capacities as an Indigenous Woman.

The consolidation of the Women’s Council

“With these gatherings, we identified ourselves as large families; we realized how big city dynamics had separated us; meeting one another allowed us to heal, the women spoke with others from other clans, and from this we were able to strengthen the Women’s Council; we women leaders managed to come to an agreement,” claimed Diana Cobos. **The collective impact of FIMI’s support moved from a space of holistic healing to a women’s movement that re-signified their role in the world,** she explains.

The Muisca Council went from having 20 women who sometimes attended assemblies to make decisions, to consolidating a Women’s Council now made up of 50 women leaders. It was both a symbolic and a real awakening, to the point that after the first project began in January 2025, one year later they are still asking for that space to share again.

“The women say they want to carry this process out with their daughters, that it should extend to other Muisca Women, to other clans, because by having holistic and ritual healing, and adding psychosocial support, they are able to identify and harmonize deep imbalances,” explains Diana Cobos. She adds that they even managed to overcome the obstacle of not having a large piece of land to hold the activities, because the women’s drive was stronger than the lack of a big house.

Rituals of integration

The mark left by one hundred women crying, enjoying themselves, and coming to know themselves through the financial, human, and material resources made possible by the Ayni Fund also left its mark on the governance of the Council. Diana says the authorities were strengthened to the point that they discovered there are other ways to raise awareness in community processes and build a larger, more integral movement.

“The project contributed to reflection on how spirituality gives the Muisca Indigenous Woman security, but it also left us important tools within the Council; the project with FIMI gave us the possibility of addressing biases, because sometimes the authorities are always the same, and here all of us women were able to participate,” says **Ivone Mateus, surrounded by her daughters and her mother, who also lived through the healing experience.**

For Amparo Ochoa, integration was the most important thing, more than going where the rituals took place, because in the gatherings she found peace and silence amid her everyday problems. For her, it was not only about embroidering or playing, but about connecting with her culture, self-care, and self-love.

Rebuilding one's own history

The women sing on the banks of the Tunjuelo River, forming choruses; others have stopped crying. **They have strengthened their self-awareness.** They look into each other's eyes and do not know what sound each one produced or how, but they are together speaking about their customs and practices, the religion taught and transmitted within their families, the ritual dances, the oral practice of their clans, and respect for their elder women and elder men.

Diana has had family problems these days, but she knows she has a community of women who shelter her, women who learned to heal and to heal themselves. She says they can do so because Muisca Women are rebuilding their history. Now they are full of other women who shared their wounds; they are like little fiery stones thrown into a stream, leaving their ashes in the passing water.

The Council is now a peaceful place of low houses with red earth and green plants. An elder wise woman takes mambe, a toasted, ground, and sifted powder made from coca leaves mixed with yarumo ashes, brings it to her mouth, and mixes it with her saliva. Smoke permeates the bodies of the women, who sing happily with their eyes closed.



No Longer Invisible: The Resilient Elder Women of Panchimalco

Indigenous Women in El Salvador face a wide range of violences: racial violence, gender-based violence, territorial and cultural dispossession. To face this situation, the National Network of Indigenous Women of El Salvador (RENAMIES) draws on community life, the wisdom of elder women, and key tools such as CEDAW's GR39. In this way, since 2017, it has defended the rights of Nahua-Pipil, Lenca, and Kakawira women.

Antonio Mundaca

A spiral of violence and denial

A circle of Nahua-Pipil, Lenca, and Kakawira Women are eating together as a community; the afternoon light illuminating their faces. They serve large pots of beans and hard-boiled eggs, bowls of fresh cheese they made themselves; they laugh, talk, weave, share. Their voices stretch through wooden corridors, through humble houses sustained by their hands and their murmurs. Until five years ago, many of them did not know that together, Indigenous Women could be so strong. “We know that more than half of the Indigenous Women of El Salvador have been victims of abuse; many did not report it, they kept it to themselves, everything had always happened in silence,” says María Omelina Méndez, a 64-year-old Nahua leader from Sonsonate.

During the internal wars, the Indigenous Peoples of El Salvador were segregated, turned into the ghosts of a population crossed by gang violence and recurring disappearances. In that context, women also experienced multiple abuses and, in order to survive, were forced into silence.

Indigenous Women in El Salvador, María Omelina explains, have faced intersectional violences worsened by both their ethnic group and their gender, including domestic, psychological, and economic violence, sexual violence and femicides, racial discrimination, and structural violence. Considered second-class citizens, they have been denied land tenure, the right to preserve their mother tongue, and even their identity.

The many forms of violence and stigmatization experienced over decades have led to a situation in which, in San Salvador, the capital of the Central American country, out of a population of more than 6 million, only 68,000 self-identify as Indigenous.

In Panchimalco, a rural municipality nestled in the hills, with rock streets and damp earth, 15 kilometers from San Salvador, dispossession and mistreatment toward Indigenous Peoples, particularly Indigenous Women, came to be normalized. Fear, silence, and fragmentation became everyday currency.

No longer invisible

With the aim of confronting structural violence and discrimination, a collective emerged in 2017: the National Network of Indigenous Women of El Salvador (RENAMIES). “To confront so many years of invisibility, we were accompanied by the project *Prevention of Gender-Based Violence against Indigenous Women from Cultural Diversity*, supported by the Ayni Fund of the International Indigenous Women’s Forum (FIMI),” says Claudia Pérez Valiente, Indigenous Women’s defender and member of the RENAMIES coordinating group.

The project was carried out in two stages. “The first was the development of an urgent intergenerational dialogue in the eastern, western, and central regions of the country, with the aim of finding one another and reconnecting,” Claudia continues.

She says that **together, they designed an awareness-raising campaign that made visible the forms of violence suffered by Salvadoran women.** They implemented national forums with authorities from public institutions across the country, involving girls, youth, and men in conversations about the ancestral strength of Indigenous Women, their rights, and the urgency of freeing their environments from violence. **“Each action allowed us to plant the seeds from which new flowers will bloom,” Pérez Valiente concludes.**

“We have learned to be resilient in the face of threats. Throughout the entire process we experienced with FIMI, we were able to release what was hurting us; these encounters have healed our minds, our souls, and our bodies,” adds María Omelina Méndez.

Before the gender violence prevention sessions, she says, she was very tense and felt emotionally fragile despite her age and years of experience: “Understanding that it is not normal to feel fear helps me accompany younger women in their struggles against violence.”

Her granddaughter, Keisi Ivetth, is 13 years old and has lost her mother tongue. Few elder women remain who can pass on the traditions. “My girl will be a woman who defends her rights, because even though she no longer speaks her mother tongue, she still recognizes herself as an Indigenous Woman,” María Omelina adds emotionally.

The dream of full and effective participation

In the second stage of the project, they used different tools to raise awareness and confront violence: they created and staged a play, strengthened their productive and financial capacities, and developed art therapy through painting, needles, colored pencils, clay, scissors, and paper within a framework of community coexistence.

The theater allowed them to raise awareness through play: painting their faces, becoming imaginary characters, staging dialogues like girls in the middle of the forest. The trainings strengthened their economic independence, essential for challenging violence: they built pens for backyard poultry and a community garden, and received financial education.

But without a doubt, one of the most important strategies was the distribution of General Recommendation 39 (GR39) of the CEDAW Committee. RENAMIES printed the GR39 report, a crucial UN document that urges States to combat the intersectional discrimination and violence faced by Indigenous Women and Girls. The sisters shared it at all the gatherings, and it was received with amazement and joy by the women.

“The report helped us understand the mechanisms of oppression that exist, but it also allowed us to dialogue in order to strengthen cultural identity, worldview, history, and everything related to community governance,” says Betty Elisa Pérez, coordinator of the network, proud of what they achieved during the training process.

Olga Idalia Mestizo, an Indigenous Woman from Nahuizalco, Sonsonate, and a member of the network, says that “where there are organized women, it is possible to ensure access to justice, health, education, land, and political participation, because our role is vital for culture and the environment.” Surrounded by coffee fields over which the drizzle stretches, she concludes: “That is why we believe it is important for FIMI to continue accompanying us, so that we may achieve full and effective participation in national processes.”

A clear horizon

In the hamlets of Panchimalco, adobe houses can still be seen, barely lit by daylight. Floors left in ruins by the storms of a couple of months ago. Despite this, Salvadoran Indigenous Women gather happily because they brought their forums to Houses of Culture that had previously remained closed. Meanwhile, they talk about child rearing, grandchildren, and explain how many of them grew up in the countryside (amid dispossession and violence) and could not

complete their studies. Now, thanks to RENAMIES, they are all aware of the abuses and are determined to improve the situation.

“We know where we come from, we now know where we are going, we are a seed blessed by the earth, by the water and by the wind,” says Omelina, while holding in her small yet wise hands a wreath of flowers of abundance. Tomorrow, very early, almost at dawn, the sisters will go together to make soup and tortillas by the riverbank. They will close their eyes to feel the cold water on old scars, and remember their origins as Nahua-Pipil, Lenca, and Kakawira elder women.

